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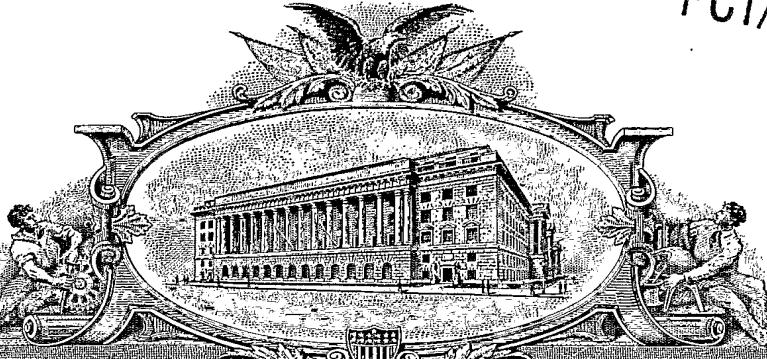
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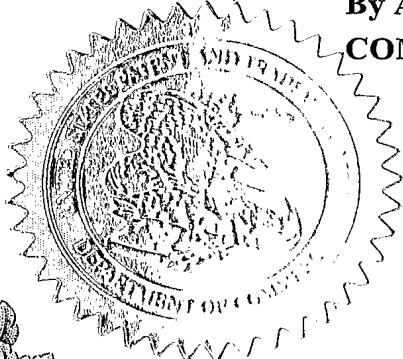
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APPLICATION NUMBER: 60/559,609

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PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT COVER SHEET
 This is a request for filing a PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT under 37 CFR 1.53(b)(2).

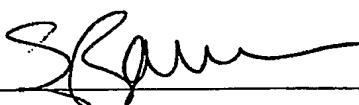
		Docket Number	ICC-303A	Type a plus sign (+) inside this box ---->	+
INVENTOR(s)/APPLICANT(s)					
LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE INITIAL	RESIDENCE (CITY AND EITHER STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY)		
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TITLE OF THE INVENTION (280 characters max)					
A CONTAINER AND COMBINATION PACKAGING					
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STEVEN C. BAUMAN HENKEL CORPORATION LEGAL DEPARTMENT 1001 TROUT BROOK CROSSING ROCKY HILL					
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<input type="checkbox"/> A check or money order is enclosed to cover the filing fees <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge filing fees and credit Deposit Account Number:				FILING FEE AMOUNT (\$)	160.00
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The invention was made by an agency of the United States Government or under a contract with an agency of the United States Government.

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Respectfully submitted:

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Date: April 5, 2004

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Title

A Container and Combination Packaging

Background to the Invention

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Field of the Invention

The present invention relates generally to the field of packs/packaging, and in particular to outer containers suitable for retaining internally internal containers which may be 10 dispensing packs/packaging.

It is desired to provide inexpensive re-useable dispensing packs which offer the user the opportunity to partially dispense the contents of a container and store the remainder for later use. The user can dispense as much of the contents as required and then re-close (or 15 reseal) the pack to store the contents for a future use. Re-sealing the pack is important particularly for materials, which are sensitive to their environment for example products, which are sensitive to air, moisture and/or light. It is desirable to provide the aforementioned sensitive material in a container and/or pack that will prolong the usable life of the product by protection from environmental conditions. Also for consumer- 20 oriented products it is desirable to provide a display friendly packaging which appeals to the consumer and which can be readily displayed by a retailer, particularly for point of sale display.

There exists a requirement for a low cost multi-use pack. While the present invention can 25 also provide a packing for a single use or "one shot" disposable pack it is intended primarily for providing a pack which can be used on a multiplicity of occasions and over time.

Summary of the Invention

The present invention provides a low cost multi-use pack. In particular it is desired to provide a combination pack, which is suitable for storage of environment sensitive products such as adhesive and other curable products. It is also an object of the invention 5 to provide an outer container for use in such packs.

To this end, the invention relates to an outer container for holding an inner container in particular where the inner container has a sensitive product. The outer container comprises at least one of a moveable display board; retaining formations for retaining a 10 hygroscopic element; or a stand for gripping the base of the inner container to retain it in an upright position. The invention also relates to a combination pack comprising the inner container retained in the outer container, particularly where the inner container holds a moisture sensitive product such as an adhesive.

15 Brief Description of the Drawings

The present invention will now be described in more detail with reference to the following Figures:

- Figure 1 – Front view of the outer container;
- Figure 2 – Rear view of the outer container;
- 20 Figure 3 – Top plan view of the outer container;
- Figure 4A – Front view of the outer container comprising a tamper evident feature;
- Figure 4B – Enlarged front view of the tamper evident feature;
- Figure 5A – Top plan view of the outer container comprising a tamper evident feature;
- Figure 5B – Enlarged top plan view of the tamper evident feature;
- 25 Figure 6A – Perspective view of the outer container;
- Figure 6B – Perspective view of the outer container;
- Figure 7 – Perspective view of the outer container retaining the inner container;
- Figure 8 – Front view of inner container housed in outer container,
- Figure 9A – Perspective view of a cannula suitable for attachment to an inner container;
- 30 and

Figure 9B – Perspective view of an alternative cannula suitable for attachment to an inner container.

Detailed Description of the Invention

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In particular the present invention has certain aspects as set out below.

First Aspect of the Invention (Display Board)

A first aspect of the present invention provides (an outer) a container (for retaining an inner container), the (outer) container having a front display side and a rear side comprising:

- (i) a container body defining a housing into which an object or material (the inner container) can be placed and a mouth through which the object or material (inner container) can be placed into the housing;
- (ii) a closure for the mouth of the container body for closing an object or material (the inner container) within the housing;
- (iii) a (flat) display board hingedly connected to the (outer) container by at least one hinge portion and having a display panel on which product information can be displayed, the display board being rotatable about at least one hinge portion between a first position wherein the display board is held in a position where the display panel faces in the same direction as the front display side of the container and in the second position the display panel faces in the same direction as the rear side of the outer container.

25

The object or material is desirably an inner container.

Second Aspect of the Invention (Stand For Inner Container)

A second aspect of the present invention provides an outer container for retaining an inner container with a dispensing end and a base end, the outer container comprising:

5 (i) a container body defining a housing into which the inner container can be placed and a mouth through which the inner container can be placed into the housing;

(ii) a closure for the mouth of the container body for closing the inner container within the housing;

10 the closure having provided, on an underside thereof, a stand for receiving and gripping the base end of the inner container and being arranged for retaining the inner container upright or substantially upright relative to the underside of the closure.

Third Aspect of the Invention

15 **(Combination Pack For Water Sensitive Material)**

The invention relates in a third aspect to a combination pack comprising outer and inner containers wherein the inner container is retained in the outer container,

the outer container comprising:

20 (i) a container body defining a housing into which the inner container can be placed and a mouth through which the inner container can be placed into the housing;

(ii) a closure for the mouth of the container body for closing the inner container within the housing;

25 (iii) retaining formations on the outer container for retaining a hygroscopic element within the housing;

the inner container comprising:

(i) a container body defining a housing into which product can be placed and a mouth through which product can be dispensed;

(ii) a closure for the mouth of the container body; and

the combination package further comprising a water sensitive material within the container body.

Combined Aspects of the Invention

5 It will be appreciated that all aspects of the invention may be utilised in combination or in any suitable sub-combination.

In particular the features of the outer containers from the first and second aspects of the invention may be combined as desired in particular to provide a display board and a stand 10 within the same construction and the present invention relates to such a construction and also to a combination pack comprising such an outer container.

The features of the outer container from the first and third aspects may also be combined as may be the features of the outer container second and third aspects.

15 This invention also relates to a combination pack comprising an outer container with any one of the combinations of features described above and an inner container.

All Aspects Of The Invention

20 The following description will describe features of the aspects of the invention described above and applies as appropriate to any aspect or combined aspect(s) which are employed.

25 Desirably the outer container has a base end and a top end and the opening is at the top end thereof. The base of the outer container is desirably arranged to maintain the outer container in a standing position when placed in an upstanding position on the base thereof. The base will also support the combination pack i.e. when the inner container is *in situ* within the outer container. It is also desirable that the container is constructed of

transparent or translucent material. For example the outer container may be constructed of a natural or coloured plastics material (as discussed in more detail below).

Desirably the outer container is made of a rigid material. Forming the outer container in 5 this way ensures that the inner container cannot be unintentionally squeezed by inadvertent pressure.

In a preferred arrangement the closure for the mouth of the outer container takes the form of a lid or cap which is mounted on the container body. Suitably at least one flexible 10 hinge is provided between the container body and the lid. In one construction it is desirable that the lid opens to one side of the container, i.e., that the flexible hinge is provided on a side wall of the outer container which is located between the front display side and the rear side thereof. Desirably the lid is a snap-fit to the container. A grip (a hand grip such as a thumb grip) may be provided on the lid for ease of opening and 15 closing of the lid.

In one arrangement, the underside of the closure has formed thereon a stand, which comprises a slot into which the base of the inner container can be placed. The stand may be formed by upstanding members on the underside of the closure. Desirably the 20 upstanding members form opposing grips for gripping opposing sides of the base of the inner container. In one arrangement two pairs of opposing grips are provided on the underside of the closure for gripping the base end of the inner container at positions spaced apart from each other. In particular it is desirable that the stand is arranged (to form a slot) for engaging the base end of an inner container, which has been formed by 25 crimping.

Desirably the closure has a continuous upright member on the underside of the closure, which together with an outer rim on the closure forms an annular channel between the continuous upright member and an inner wall of the rim of the closure. When the mouth 30 of the outer container is closed by the closure, a rim about the mouth of the outer

container seats into the channel on the underside of the closure thereby providing an airtight seal between the closure and the outer container. Desirably, the outer container further comprises a rim which prevents the closure from being pushed too far down the container body when the closure is covering the mouth of the outer container.

5

Desirably the retaining formations for retaining the hygroscopic element on the outer container are provided on the underside of the closure. The hygroscopic element is desirably a desiccant material, which is in a pre-formed shape. The retaining formations are arranged to grip and engage the pre-formed desiccant material. The desiccant

10 material may be of any known type though desiccant material formed of multiple layers of fibrous or polymer materials or molecular sieves are desirable. Desirably however it is the form of a pellet or tablet which can be gripped between the retaining formations. For example the pre-formed desiccant material can be in a generally cylindrical shape.

Suitable pre-formed desiccant materials sold under the trade name POLLY DESICCANT
15 are available from the following commercial source: Shanghai Polly Technology Development Co., Ltd. Shanghai, China and as advertised on the website: www.polydesiccant.com. These desiccant materials are generally of the fibrous type. Desiccants of the molecular sieve type are available from Süd-Chemie with various facilities including one in New Mexico and from their website: www.sud-chemie.com.
20 Desirably, the desiccant is in the form of a desiccant capsule. The desiccant may be for example a desiccant capsule comprising a silica gel held in a plastics (for example polypropylene) shell and covered with a cardboard disc.

Desirably the stand for receiving and gripping the base end of the inner container are
25 formed integrally with the retaining formations for retaining the hygroscopic element. In one arrangement the retaining formations are formed by opposing C-shapes (spaced apart and facing in opposing directions).

In one arrangement a snap-lock is arranged between the display board and the outer
30 container to lock the display board in the first (display) position (- against movement

about the hinge portion). Suitably the hinge portion is a flexible hinge. In one arrangement two flexible hinges are provided at spaced apart positions. In such a construction it is desirable that the snap lock arrangement is located between the spaced apart hinges. In this way substantial manual pressure must be applied about the hinge portion to overcome the snap-lock and move the display board into the second position. Movement between the first and second position will typically involve movement about the hinge portion through approximately an angle of 180 degrees or greater.

Desirably the at least one hinge portion is provided at one (lower) end of the display board. Further it is desired that the at least one hinge portion attaches the display board to the outer container at a position proximate to or at the top end of the outer container. In a first position of the display board in this construction the display board extends substantially beyond (and suitably above) the outer container. In this way the display panel is clearly visible to a user.

Desirably the display panel and the outer container are provided with interengaging formations which (when engaged) hold the display panel in the second position.

Further in one construction an aperture is provided in the display panel. The aperture may function as a display hanger for hanging the outer container on a display shelf or the like. The aperture is desirably located proximate to the (top) end of the display board away from the (bottom) hinged end.

The interengaging formations may be a projection on the display panel and a rim on the outer container. The rim may also have attached thereto the hinge between the closure and the outer container and the hinge(s) between the display board and the container.

In one construction a tamper evident feature may be provided between the display panel and the outer container. In particular the tamper evident feature could be provided between the closure and the display panel. If either the closure were opened or the

display panel were moved a frangible connection between the two would break indicating tampering with the product. Desirably, the tamper evident feature may be provided between the closure and the top end of the container body. In particular the tamper evident feature could be a plug and if the closure were opened, a frangible connection 5 between the closure and the top end of the container body would break indicating tampering of the product.

In order to avoid the display panel falling too far a stop may be provided between the display panel and the outer container, and in particular the closure therefor.

10 One or more inner containers could be provided in a single outer container. Further the combination pack of the invention may include, as part of a kit, a dispensing nozzle or cannula which fits to the inner container and aids application of product dispensed therefrom. The dispensing nozzle or cannula is particularly useful with curable products 15 such as cyanoacrylates.

One or both of, and desirably both of, the inner or outer containers can be moulded as a single piece for example from plastics material, thus making an integrally formed container which is relatively low cost to produce.

20 Desirably the outer container is also moulded as a single piece for example from plastics material, thus making an integrally formed container which is relatively low cost to produce. Apart from the body and closure the moulded piece would desirably include as appropriate the display board, the stand on the underside of the closure or the retaining 25 formations as appropriate to the aspect(s) of the invention being adopted.

It is desirable that the inner container holds within its housing an environmentally sensitive product as an adhesive product. In particular it is desirable that the inner container holds within its housing a cyanoacrylate adhesive. Provision of the hygroscopic

element within the outer container helps to increase the usable lifetime of an adhesive stored within the combined pack.

It will be appreciated that the inner container is removed from the outer container before
5 use.

A suitable inner container is the container described and shown in International Patent Application No. PCT/IE01/00078 (Publication No. WO 01/94213) the entire contents of which are incorporated herein in their entirety by reference. In particular the inner

10 container useful with the various aspects of the present invention may comprise a dispensing nozzle assembly with a re-useable break-off (or break-away) closure in the form of a cap. The nozzle assembly may be attachable to a container or integrally formed therewith. The nozzle may thus be closed with the cap after the cap has been broken off. The nozzle may be attachable to or integrally formed with a container and the containers
15 contents are thus protectable by the re-useable cap. Snap-fit or other interengaging formations on the cap and the container may be used to retain the cap in place for storage.

The inner container according to any aspect of the present invention is desirably a hand-held phial. The phial may be constructed of deformable plastics so that it may be

20 squeezable (by manual pressure and in particular finger pressure) to express product. Optionally the phial may be constructed of clear or translucent plastics. The plastics material can be sufficiently translucent to allow the level of product within the container to be determined by external viewing (through the sides of the container).

25 As can be seen from Figures 1 and 2, the outer container 25 comprises a front display side 5 and a rear side 6 and a container body 1 having a base end 12 and a top end 13 and housing 22 for an inner container 24 as shown in Figure 8. Product display information can be attached to the front display side 5 and / or the rear side 6. The container body 1 is provided with a lid 2 attached to the container body 1 by a hinge 14 and a display board 3.
30 The display board 3 comprises a display panel 4 and an aperture 11. The display board 3

is hingedly attached to the container body 1 by at least one hinge 7, the display board 3 is rotatable about at least one hinge 7 between a first position (shown in Figure 1) wherein the display board 3 is held in a position where the display panel 4 faces in the same direction as the front display side 5 of the container body 1 and a second position (shown 5 in Figure 6B) where the display panel 4 faces in the same direction as the rear side 6 of the container body 1. The display board 3 is provided with a snap fit 8 to retain the display board 3 in the first position and a projection 10 that inter-engages with the rim 9 of the rear side 6 of the container body 1 to retain the display board 1 in the second position. Product information can be displayed on the display panel 4 of the display 10 board 4. As can be seen from Figure 3, the display board 3 is further provided with a stop 15 that abuts the lid 2 to prevent the display board 3 from falling too far forward when the display board 3 is in position 1. As shown in Figure 3, a rim 33 on the container body prevents the lid 2 from being pushed too far down the container body 2 when the lid 2 is in the closed position. The rim 33 also provides a point of attachment for flexible hinge 15 14 and at least one hinge 7. The rim 33 cooperates with the snap fit 8 to retain the display board 3 in the first position.

Figure 3 shows the lid 2 in its open position whereby the mouth 17 and housing 22 can be viewed. The underside of the closure 2 comprises a thumb grip 16 for ease of opening 20 and closing the lid 2 by the end user, a stand comprising a slot 18 formed by two pairs of opposing grips 19 and a retaining formation 26 comprised of two opposing C shapes 20. As can be seen from Figure 7, the crimped end 23 of the inner container 24 engages with the slot 18, which retains the inner container 24 in a substantially upright position. The underside of the lid, as shown in Figure 3, comprises a continuous upright member 30 25 which together with an outer rim 31 on the closure forms an annular channel 32 between the upright member 30 and the outer rim 31 of the lid 2. When the lid 2 is in the closed position, a rim 33 about the mouth 17 of the container body 1 seats into the channel 32 to provide an airtight seal between the closure and the outer container.

The container body 1 of the present invention can optionally further comprise a tamper evident feature 21 as shown in Figures 4 and 5. The tamper evident feature 21 is provided between the lid 2 and the top end 13 of the container body 1.

- 5 Figures 9A and 9B show respectively a perspective view of a cannula 27 suitable for attachment to an inner container 24, and a further cannula 28 provided with wings or grips 29 for ease of manual orientation/attachment. The cannulas 28 or 29 are provided for ease of dispensing material from the inner container 24.
- 10 The words "comprises/comprising" and the words "having/including" when used herein with reference to the present invention are used to specify the presence of stated features, integers, steps or components but does not preclude the presence or addition of one or more other features, integers, steps, components or groups thereof.
- 15 It is appreciated that certain features of the invention, which are, for clarity, described in the context of separate embodiments, may also be provided in combination in a single embodiment. Conversely, various features of the invention which are, for brevity, described in the context of a single embodiment, may also be provided separately or in any suitable sub-combination.

20

Claims

1. A container having a front display side and a rear side comprising:
 - (i) a container body defining a housing into which an object or material can be placed and a mouth through which the object or material can be placed into the housing;
 - (ii) a closure for the mouth of the container body for closing an object or material within the housing;
 - (iii) a display board hingedly connected to the container by at least one hinge portion and having a display panel on which product information can be displayed, the display board being rotatable about at least one hinge portion between a first position wherein the display board is held in a position where the display panel faces in the same direction as the front display side of the container and in the second position the display panel faces in the same direction as the rear side of the outer container.
2. A container as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a tamper evident feature.
3. A container as claimed in claim 1 wherein the container has a base arranged to maintain the container in a standing position when the container is placed in an upstanding position on said base.
4. A container as claimed in claim 1 wherein the closure for the mouth of the container is a lid.
5. A container as claimed in claim 4 wherein the lid is mounted on the container body.
6. A container as claimed in claim 5 wherein the lid is mounted on the container body by at least one flexible hinge.

7. A container as claimed in claim 4 wherein the lid is a snap fit to the container.

8. A container as claimed in claim 1 wherein the display board is retained in the first position by a snap fit.

5

9. A container as claimed in claim 1 wherein the display board is retained in the second position by inter-engaging members.

10. A container as claimed in claim 9 wherein the inter-engaging members comprise a projection and a rim.

11. A container as claimed in claim 10 wherein the projection is on the display panel and the rim is on the container.

15 12. A container as claimed in claim 1 wherein the display board further comprises a stop to prevent the display board from travelling too far forward in the first position.

13. An outer container for retaining an inner container with a dispensing end and a base end, the outer container comprising:

20 (i) a container body defining a housing into which the inner container can be placed and a mouth through which the inner container can be placed into the housing;

(ii) a closure for the mouth of the container body for closing the inner container within the housing;

25 the closure having provided, on an underside thereof, a stand for receiving and gripping the base end of the inner container and being arranged for retaining the inner container upright or substantially upright relative to the underside of the closure.

30 14. An outer container as claimed in claim 13 further comprising a tamper evident feature.

15. An outer container as claimed in claim 13 wherein the outer container has a base arranged to maintain the outer container in a standing position when the outer container is placed in an upstanding position on said base.

5

16. An outer container as claimed in claim 13 wherein the closure for the mouth of the outer container is a lid.

10 17. An outer container as claimed in claim 16 wherein the lid is mounted on the container body.

18. An outer container as claimed in claim 17 wherein the lid is mounted on the container body by at least one flexible hinge.

15 19. An outer container as claimed in claim 16 wherein the lid is a snap fit to the container.

20. An outer container as claimed in claim 13 wherein the stand comprises a slot.

20 21. An outer container as claimed in claim 20 wherein the slot is formed by upstanding members.

22. An outer container as claimed in claim 21 wherein the upstanding members are formed by a plurality of parallel grips.

25 23. A combination pack comprising outer and inner containers wherein the inner container is retained in the outer container,

the outer container comprising:

(i) a container body defining a housing into which the inner container can be placed and a mouth through which the inner container can be placed into the housing;

30

- (ii) a closure for the mouth of the container body for closing the inner container within the housing;
- (iii) retaining formations on the outer container for retaining a hygroscopic element within the housing;

5

the inner container comprising:

- (i) a container body defining a housing into which product can be placed and a mouth through which product can be dispensed;
- (ii) a closure for the mouth of the container body; and

10 the combination package further comprising a water sensitive material within the container body.

24. A combination pack as claimed in claim 23 further comprising a tamper evident feature.

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25. A combination pack as claimed in claim 23 wherein the outer container has a base arranged to maintain the outer container in a standing position when the outer container is placed in an upstanding position on said base.

20 26. A combination pack as claimed in claim 23 wherein the closure for the mouth of the outer container is a lid.

27. A combination pack as claimed in claim 26 wherein the lid is mounted on the container body.

25

28. A combination pack as claimed in claim 27 wherein the lid is mounted on the container body by at least one flexible hinge.

29. A combination pack as claimed in claim 26 wherein the lid is a snap fit to the container.

30. A combination pack comprising outer and inner containers wherein the inner container is retained in the outer container,

the outer container comprising:

- (i) a container body defining a housing into which the inner container can be placed and a mouth through which the inner container can be placed into the housing;
- (ii) a closure for the mouth of the container body for closing the inner container within the housing, the closure having provided, on an underside thereof, a stand for receiving and gripping the base end of the inner container and being arranged for retaining the inner container upright or substantially upright relative to the underside of the closure;
- (iii) a display board hingedly connected to the outer container by at least one hinge portion and having a display panel on which product information can be displayed, the display board being rotatable about at least one hinge portion between a first position wherein the display board is held in a position where the display panel faces in the same direction as the front display side of the container and in the second position the display panel faces in the same direction as the rear side of the outer container.
- (iv) retaining formations on the outer container for retaining a hygroscopic element within the housing;

the inner container comprising:

- (i) a container body defining a housing into which product can be placed and a mouth through which product can be dispensed;
- (ii) a closure for the mouth of the container body; and

the combination package further comprising a water sensitive material within the container body.

31. A combination pack as claimed in claim 30 further comprising a dispensing nozzle.

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Abstract Of The Disclosure

The invention relates to an outer container for holding an inner container in particular where the inner container has a sensitive product. The outer container comprises at least 5 one of a moveable display board; retaining formations for retaining a hygroscopic element; or a stand for gripping the base of the inner container to retain it in an upright position. The invention also relates to a combination pack comprising the inner container retained in the outer container, particularly where the inner container holds a moisture sensitive product such as an adhesive.

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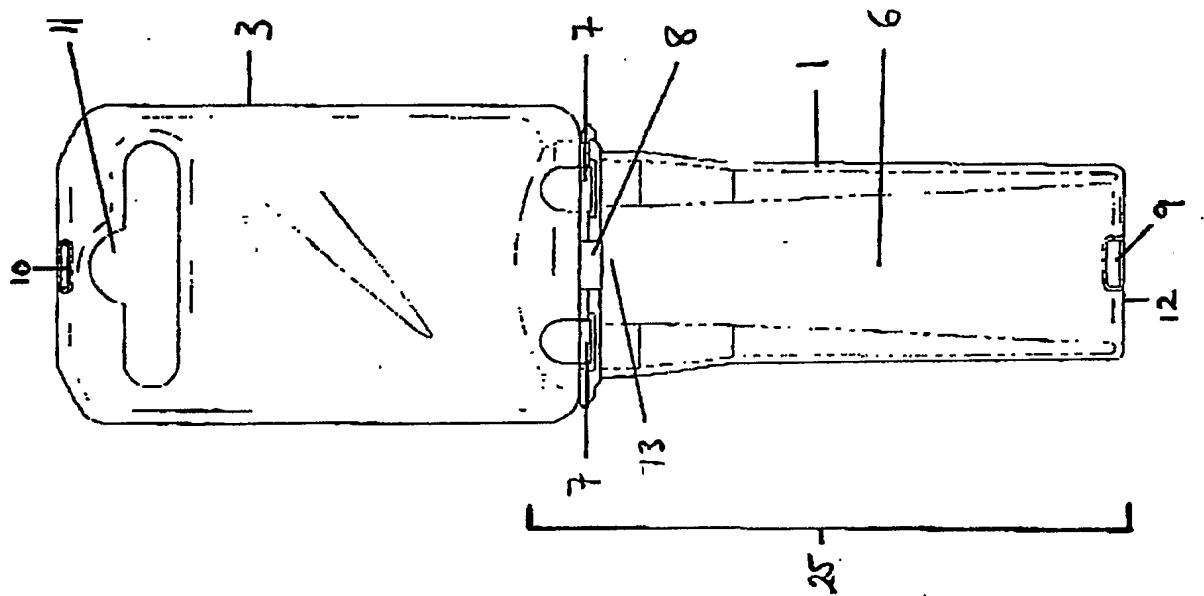


FIG 2

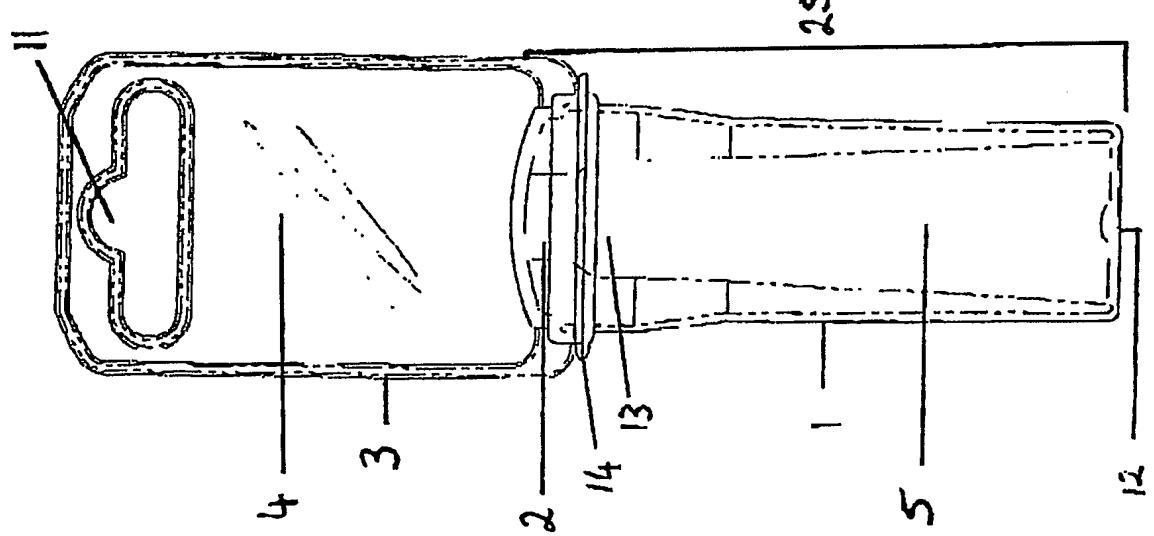


FIG 1

218.

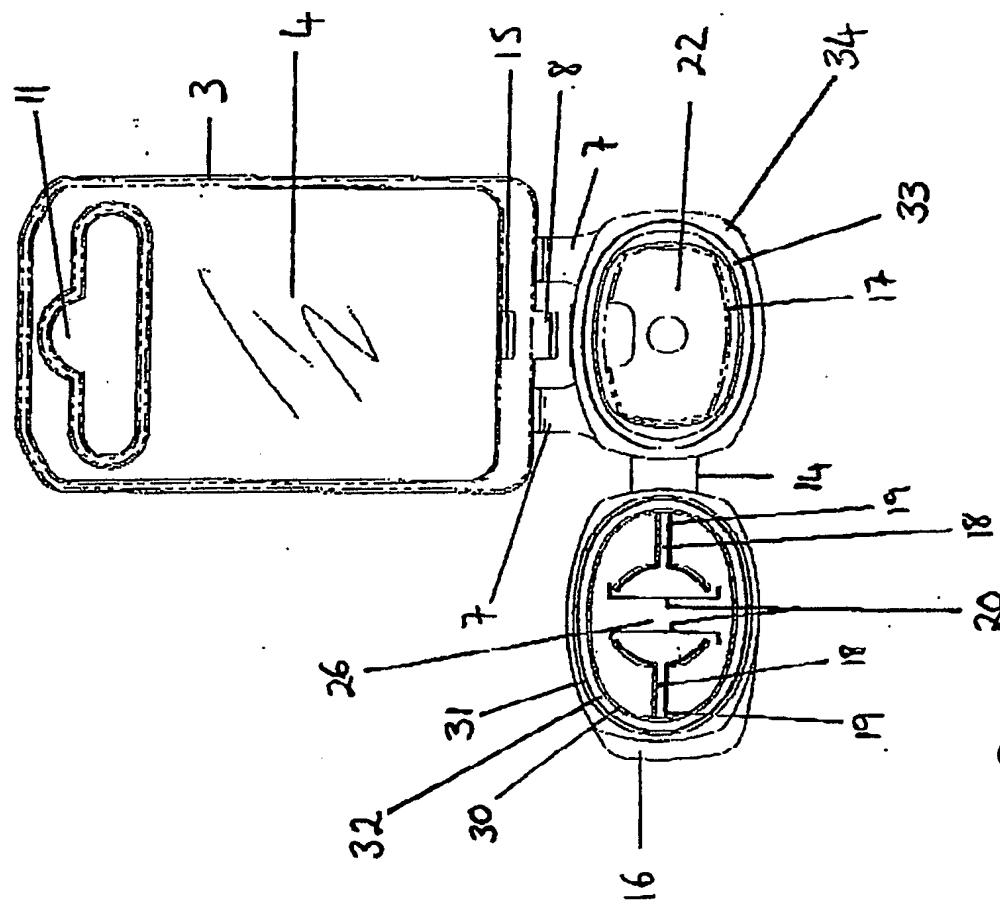


FIG. 3

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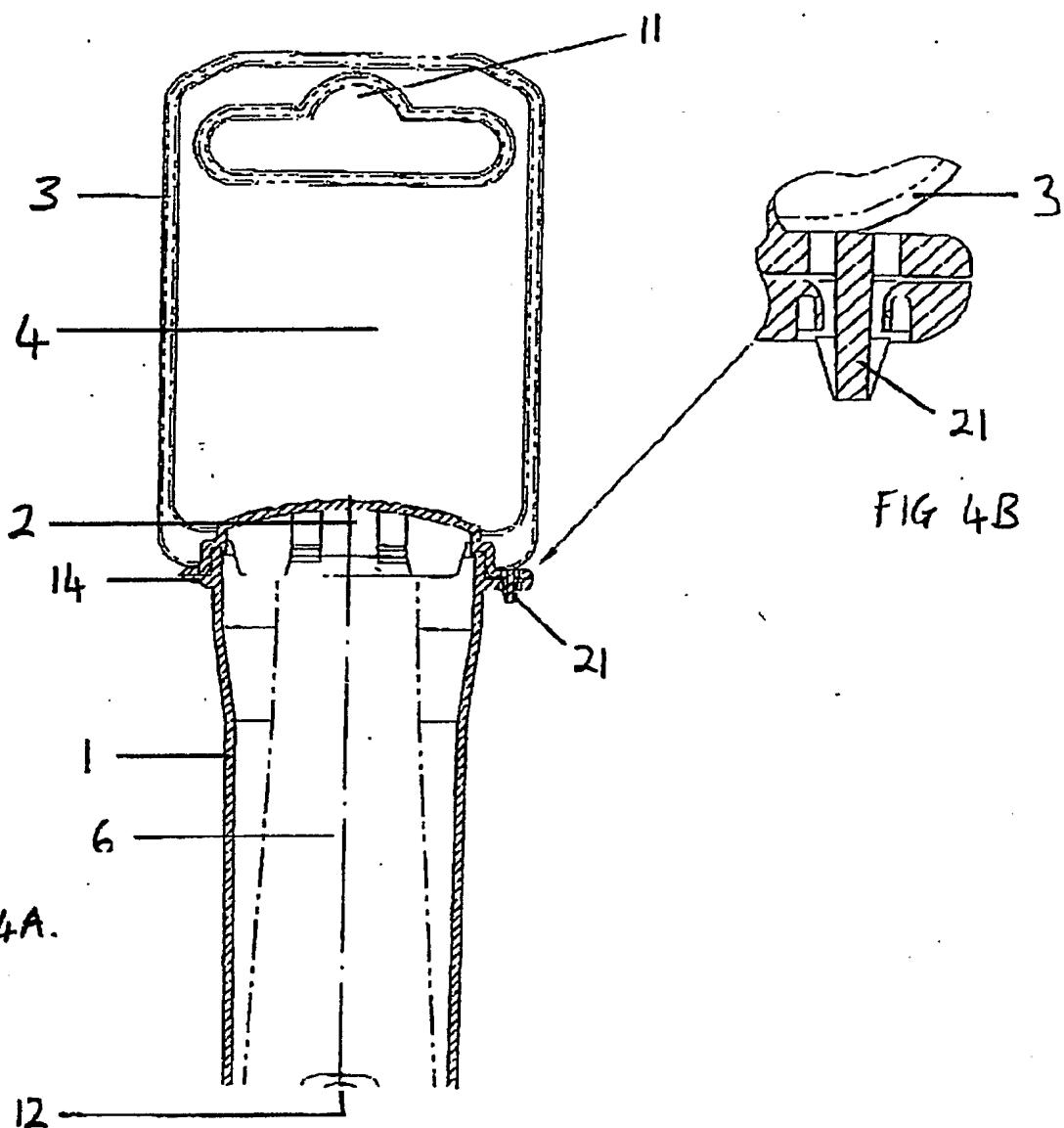


FIG 4B

FIG 4A.

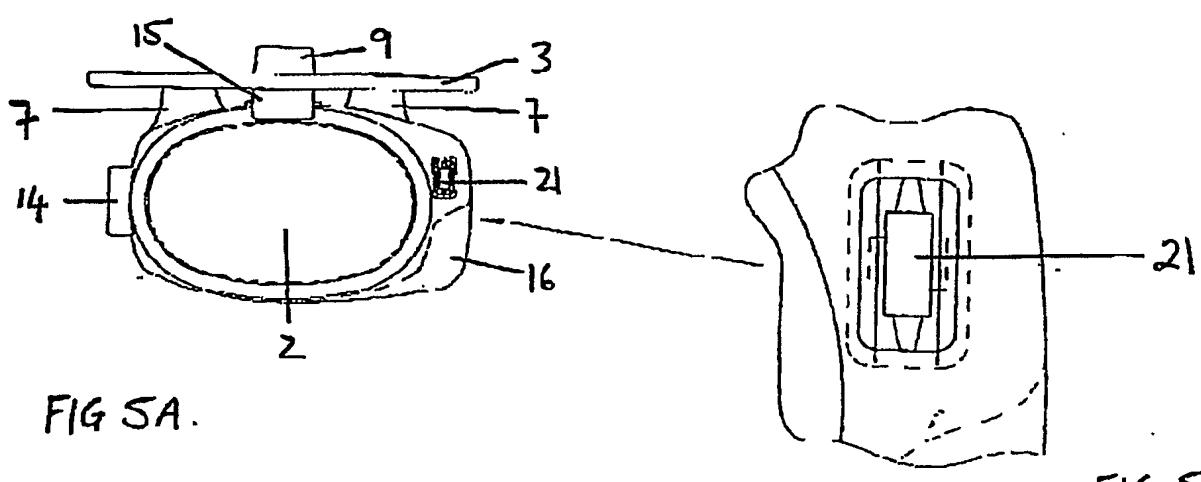


FIG 5A.

FIG 5B

418

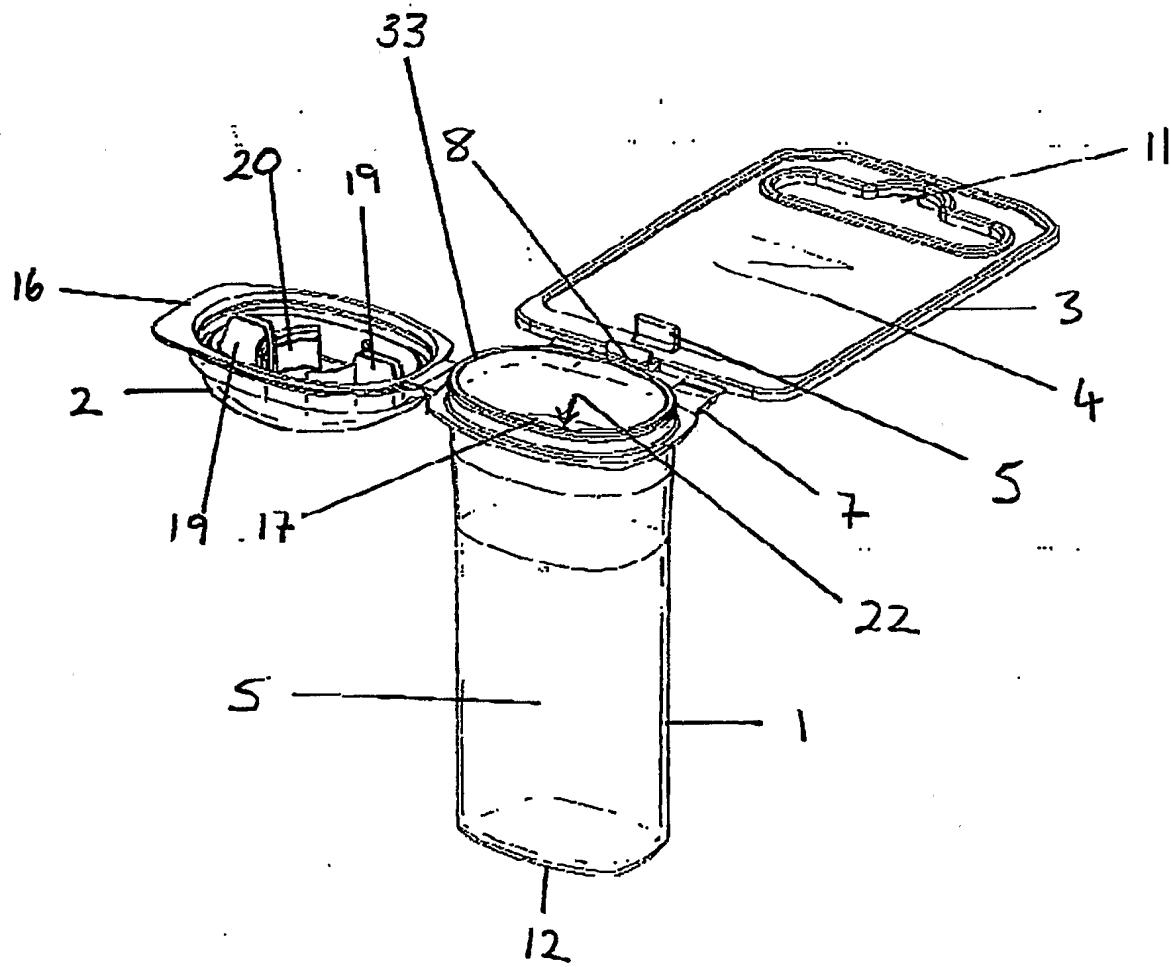


FIG 6A

518

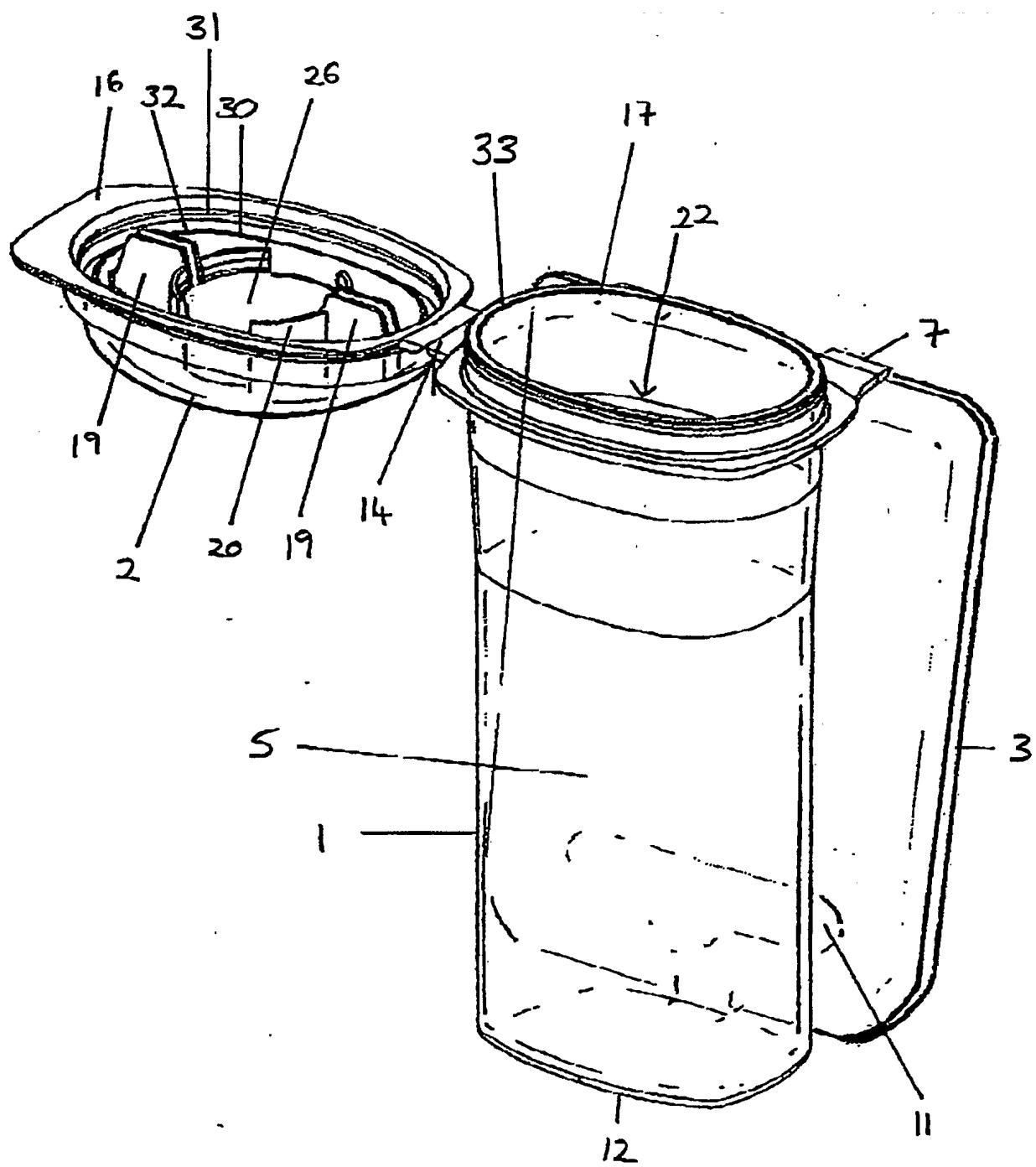


FIG 6B

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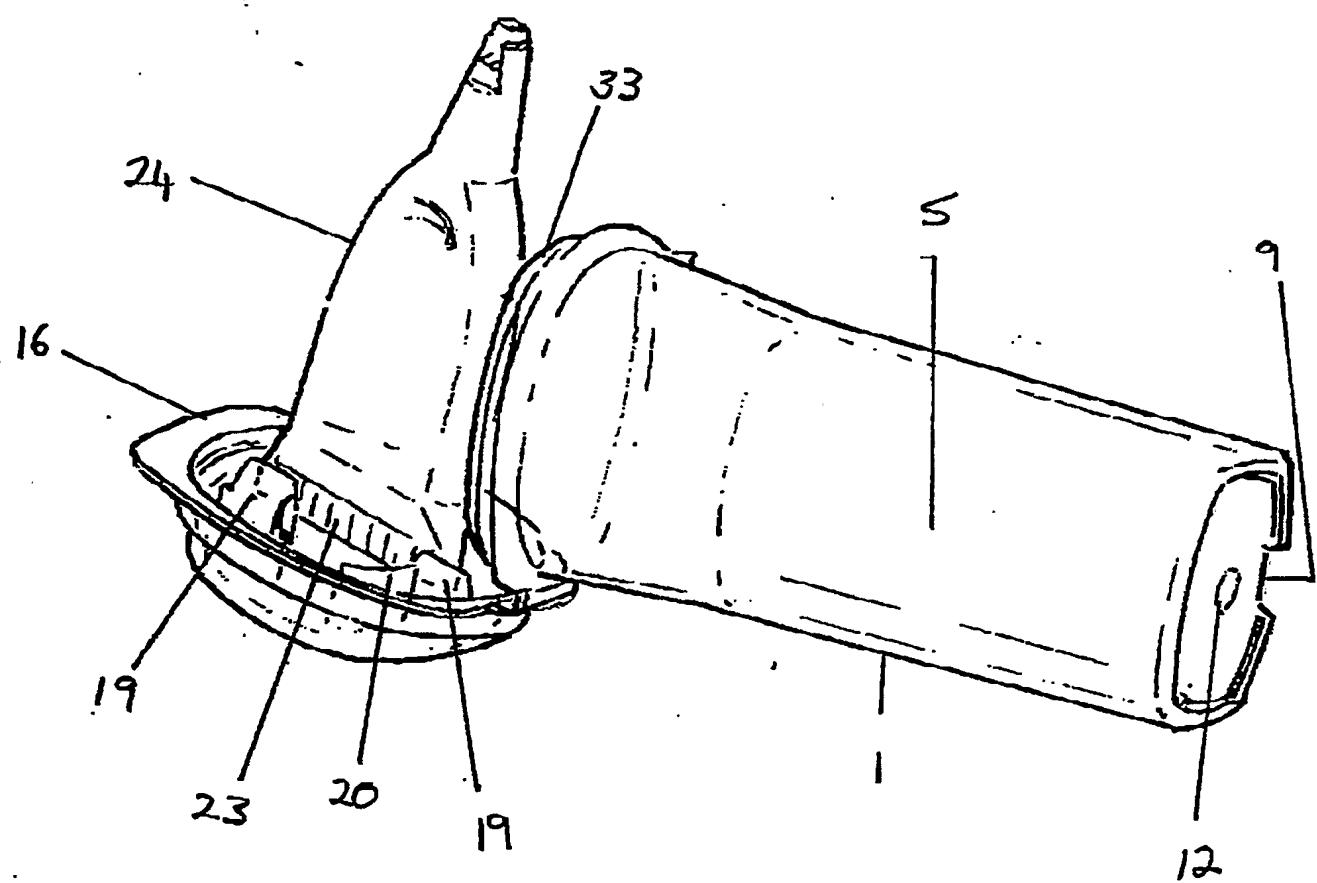


FIG 7

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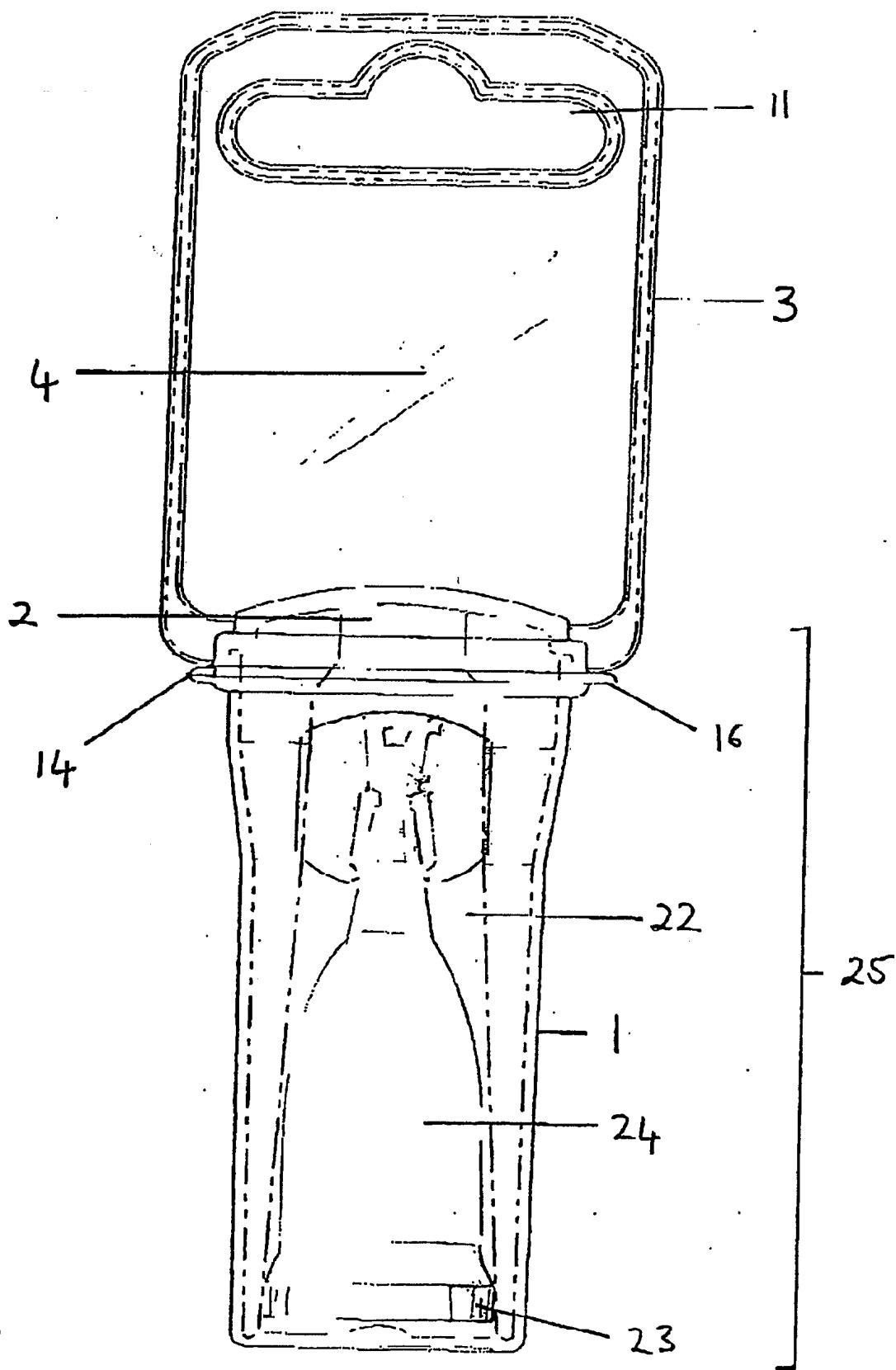


FIG 8

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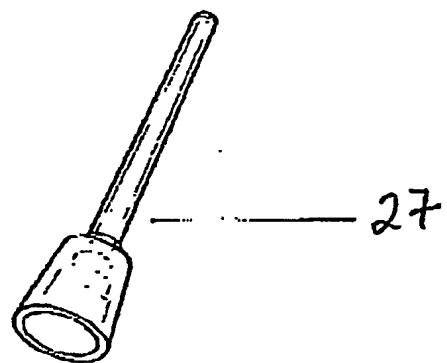


FIG 9A

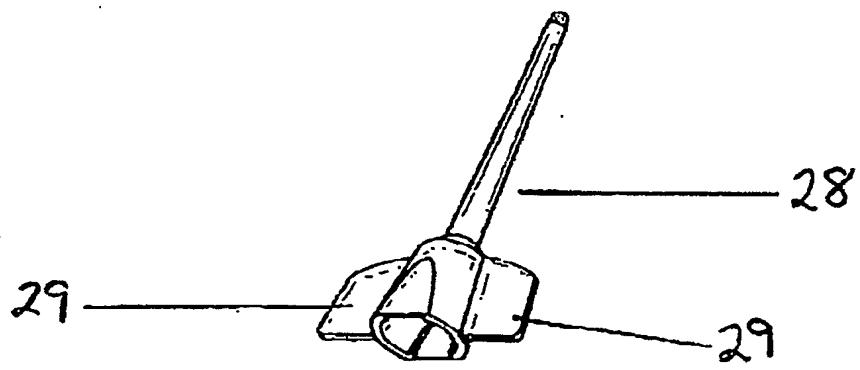


FIG 9B